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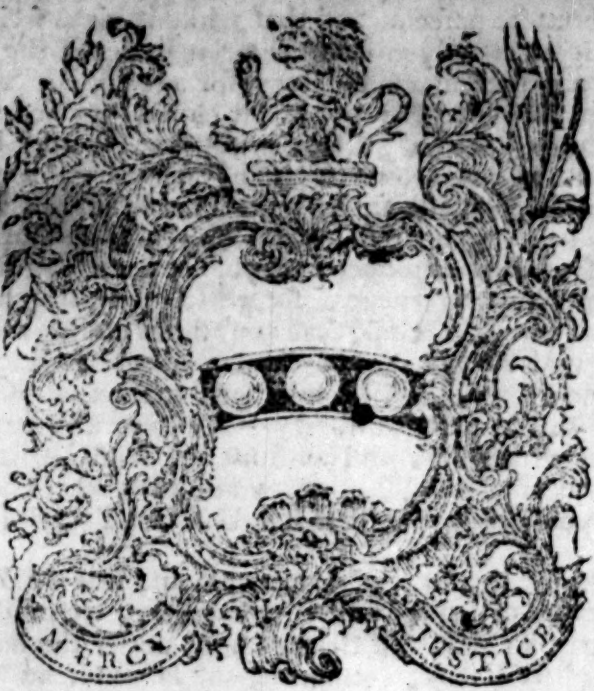
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The PENNSYLVANIA

G A Z E T T E.

Containing the Freshest Ad-

vices, Foreign and Domestic.



SPEECH and MOTIONS made in the HOUSE OF COMMONS, on Monday, the 27th of March, 1775, by Mr. HARTLEY, Member for Hull; together with a Draught of a Letter of Requisition to the Colonies. (Concluded from our last.)

LOOK at the preamble of the act of navigation, and every American act, and see if the interest of this country is not the avowed object. If they make a hit or a piece of steel, an act of Parliament calls it a nuisance; a tilting hammer, a steel furnace, must be abated in America as a nuisance. Is it so with their fellow-subjects on this side of the Atlantic? Are the hats and cloths of Gloucestershire nuisances? Are the tilting hammers of Pontipool nuisances? Are the cutleries of Sheffield and Birmingham nuisances? Are the stockings of Nottingham nuisances? Are the linens of Scotland, Ireland, or Broomsgrove, nuisances? Are the woollen cloths of Yorkshire, the grapes of Norwich, or the cottons of Manchester, nuisances? Sir, I speak from facts. I call your books of statutes and journals to witness. With the least recollection, every one must acknowledge the truth of these facts.

But it is said, the peace establishment of North-America has been, and is, very expensive to this country. Sir, for what has been let us take the peace establishment before 1739, and after 1748. All that I can find in your journals is, four companies kept up at New-York, and three companies in Carolina. As to the four companies at New-York, this country should know best why they put themselves to that expense; or whether they were really at any expense at all; for these were companies of fictitious men. Unless the money was repaid into the treasury, it was applied to some other purpose; for these companies were not a quarter full. In the year 1754, two of them were sent up to Albany, to attend commissioners to treat with the six nations, to impress them with a high idea of our military power; to display all the pomp and circumstance of war before them, in hopes to scare them; when, in truth, we made a very ridiculous figure. The whole complement of the two companies did not exceed thirty tattered, tottering invalids, fitter to scare the crows. This information I have had from eye-witnesses.

It has not fallen in my way to hear any account of the three Carolina companies; these are trifles. The substantial question is, What material expense have you been at in the periods alluded to, for the peace establishment of North-America? Ransack your journals, search your public offices for army or ordnance expenses. Make out your bill, and let us see what it is. No one yet knows it. Had there been any such, I believe the administration would have produced it before now, with aggravation; as was the case a few years ago with the East-India company, who had their effects arrested for a long bill, when they little expected it, and that bill too not very scrupulously charged; but when money is in the case, whether from the east or from the west, ministers can make as long bills as other people.

But is not the peace establishment of North-America now very high, and very expensive? I would answer that by another question; Why should the peace establishment since the late war, and the total expulsion of the French interest, be higher than it was before the late war, and when the French possessed above half the American continent? If it be so, there must be some singular reason.

I cannot suppose that you mean, under the general term of North-America, to saddle all the expenses of Canada, Nova-Scotia, Cape-Breton, Newfoundland, Florida and the West-Indies, upon the old colonies of North-America. You cannot mean to keep the sovereignty, the property, the possession (these are the terms of the cession in the treaty of 1763) to yourselves, and lay the expense of the military establishment, which you think proper to keep up, upon the old colonies.

Sir, the colonies never thought of interfering in the prerogative of making war or peace; but if this nation can be so unjust as to meditate the settling the expense of your new conquests separately upon them, they ought to have had a voice in settling the terms of peace. It is you, on this side of the water, who have first brought out the idea of separate interests, by planning separate and distinct charges. It was *their* men, and *their* money, which had conquered North-America and the West-Indies, as well as yours, though you seized all the spoils; but they never thought of dictating to you what you should keep, or what you should give up, little dreaming that you reserved the expense of your military governments for them. Who gave up the Havannah? Who gave up Martinique? Who gave up Guadaloupe, with Marigalante? Who gave up Santa Lucia? Who gave up the Newfoundland fishery? Who gave up all these, without *their* consent, without *their* participation, without *their* consultation, and after all without equivalents? Sir, if your colonies had but been permitted to have gathered up the crumbs which have fallen from your table, they would gladly have supported the whole establishment of North-America.

Your colonies have now shewn you the value of lands in North-America; and therefore you have vested in the crown the sovereignty, property, and possession of infinite tracts of land, perhaps as extensive as all Europe, which the crown may dispose of at its own price, as the land rises in America, and grants become invaluable; and to enable the crown to support an arbitrary military, nay even a Romish government, till these lands rise to their future immense value, you are casting about to saddle the expense either upon the American or the British supplies. The Americans must, indeed, be in a state of infancy, if they do not see the tendency of all this; and we ourselves must be more insane and blind even than the Americans; we, who have already seen the patronage of the East-Indies put into the hands of the crown, and who now see, the sovereignty, property, and possession of

North-America, with every military and despotic power, vested solely in the King's hands; we, who are made to learn every hour, by precept and example, that charters, being but the breath of kings, are to be annihilated by the breath or pliable parliaments; we must be, Sir, I say, more insane than them, if we do not see the tendency of all this, and if we do not provide in time for our own security, as well as for that of America; I will not suppose, that we can be so improvident as not to attend to these important and perhaps not very distant events; nor, with respect to the present question, will I suppose, that Parliament can meditate so great an injustice, as to require your old colonies to support the charge of all your new conquests, and of all the rest of America.

This country is very liberal in its boasting of its protection and parental kindness to America. Is it for that purpose that we have converted the province of Canada into an absolute and military government, and have established the Romish bigotry dominant, as a terror upon all our ancient and protestant colonies? What security, what protection do they derive? In what fort are they the better for the conquest of the French dominions, if we take that opportunity to establish a government, civil, military, and ecclesiastical, in the utmost degree hostile to the government of our own provinces, and with the intent to set a thorn in their sides? Is this affection and parental kindness? Surely you do not expect that they should be taxed and talliaged to pay for this rod of iron which you are preparing for them!

Now, Sir, I come to a point, in which I think you may be said to have given some protection. I mean the protection of your fleet to the American commerce. And even here I am at a loss by what terms to call it; whether you are protecting yourselves or them. They are *your* cargoes, *your* manufactures, *your* commerce, *your* navigation. Every ship from America is bound to Great-Britain. None enter an American port, but British ships and men. While you are defending the American commerce, you are defending Leeds and Halifax, Sheffield and Birmingham, Manchester and Hull, Bristol and Liverpool, London, Dublin and Glasgow. However, as our fleet does protect whatever commerce belongs to them, let that be set to the account. It is an argument to them, as well as to us. As it has been the sole policy of this kingdom, for ages, by the operation of every commercial act of Parliament, to make the American commerce totally subservient to our own convenience, the least that we owe to them in return is protection.

Sir, I have now stated my sentiments upon the preliminary matters. I have endeavoured to state the services, in war, of the Americans, with ours, and their mutual proportions; in which, by our own confession, the Americans have taken more than their share. I have stated the expense of your military establishment for them, such as it has been, or such as it need to be, always protesting against the imposition of the charge of the conquered provinces upon them; and I have stated the necessity and convenience of your fleet to their commerce. Let this line of dividing the question be pursued to what minuteness you will, in order that we may come to a fundamental judgment; let debtor or creditor fall on which side it will, I have no bias to either side of the argument; but to have perfect and liberal justice done, and reconciliation, if possible, effected, upon sound and equitable principles. I will beg leave to read to the House a draught of a letter of requisition, which I have drawn up after the manner of former requisitions to the colonies, and which I have endeavoured to adapt to the present circumstances.

Here he read the following draught* of a letter of requisition to the colonies.

"His Majesty having nothing so much at heart, as to see every part of his dominions put into a state of security, both by sea and land, against any attack, or even apprehension of attack, from foreign powers, has therefore particularly taken into his consideration, the necessity of keeping up a respectable marine establishment; as well for actual protection of the commercial interests of Great-Britain and America; as to maintain undiminished the power and preeminence of the royal flag of Great-Britain; and to preserve that navy, which has in the time of war, carried us triumphant over all our enemies, from falling into neglect or inaction, in the time of peace. The naval power of Great-Britain is more especially necessary for the protection of his Majesty's American subjects, from the special nature of their case; who have indeed each of them, by their respective militias, a provincial security by land, but from the want of a similar establishment at sea, are particularly unguarded on that element. The colonies are dependant upon the security of the sea, not only for their own trade, but likewise for that supply of British manufactures, which, if they were under the necessity of providing for themselves, would draw them off from those objects of their colonization, which are more beneficial to them, the possessing, and bringing into culture, the extensive and fertile lands of America. It is therefore the peaceable pursuit and enjoyment of all and every one of these advantages, for which they are beholden to his Majesty's royal navy, for protection.

* This draught is made out according to the usual and official forms, and upon the model of former letters of requisition to the colonies. Whenever it has been thought proper to require aids from the colonies, it has been the invariable custom for the secretary of state to write a circular letter to the governors of the several provinces, stating the occasion of the demand, the circumstances of the case, and the necessity, importance, or expediency of the services required, with directions to lay the same before the respective assemblies, "to use his influence with them, and to recommend it to them, to take these matters into their consideration, and to comply with such reasonable requisitions." The American colonies have ever complied most cheerfully and liberally with all such reasonable and constitutional requisitions.

"His Majesty has likewise taken into his consideration the state of the American Colonies, with respect to their military defence by land. The glory of all the American conquests in the late war was accomplished by the active zeal, and strenuous efforts, of the British and American united arms; in the prosecution of which, his Majesty has repeatedly had experience, that his faithful and loyal subjects of America have contributed more than their proportion. His Majesty is therefore well pleased, that his American subjects should reap, upon the fortunate termination of that war, the advantages of security most peculiarly beneficial to their situation. He considers this security as no more than a just and adequate recompence, for the liberality, zeal, and courage of their exertions, in the conquest of all those hostile provinces, and in the extirpation of all those foreign European interests, which had for many years been hovering, with an evil aspect, over the British American colonies, and circumscribing their early growth.

"His Majesty considers, that the establishment and confirmation of his newly-acquired dominions, for the peace, safety, and tranquillity of his ancient and loyal colonies, requires the same union of mind and measures, between all his subjects on each side of the Atlantic Ocean, by which they were acquired; and that suitable and proportionate provisions should be made, by the respective parts of his Majesty's dominion, according to the interest or advantages to each respectively resulting; the sovereignty, property and possession of the said conquered dominions being ceded to Great-Britain, on the one side; and a permanent and peaceable security, from all foreign enemies, or foreign forces, being the beneficial advantage acquired, and from the time of their conquest enjoyed, by the American colonies on the other. His Majesty therefore on this subject considers, that in reason, by much the greater part of the expenses of the establishment of the conquered provinces should fall where the sovereignty, property and possession are vested.

"With respect to the military defence of his Majesty's ancient colonies, the same plan may be adopted, which has obtained in former times of peace, as no greater standing force need be added to the militias of each province, than was found necessary before the expulsion of all foreign interests from North-America. Upon consideration of each of these branches requiring some military establishment, his Majesty thinks it necessary, with the consent of Parliament, to keep up some standing forces in America; as well for the security of his newly acquired dominions, as to be in readiness, in case any of his ancient colonies should be attacked, to act in conjunction with the militia of any such colony, for the required defence. His Majesty therefore, upon consideration of the premises, both with respect to the necessary naval and military establishments, thinks it not unreasonable to order requisitions to be made to the several assemblies of his loyal colonies in North-America, for a suitable and voluntary provision, for the purposes of defending, protecting and securing the said colonies.

"And to make the execution of this matter as convenient, and as satisfactory as possible, to his subjects in America, his Majesty recommends the mode to the option of the colonies; as it will be equally satisfactory to him, if the colonies themselves will undertake the performance of the services, under his Majesty's orders, by equipping, arming and maintaining, a suitable number of vessels, with the proper complement of men, to be under the command of such naval officers, as his Majesty shall from time to time appoint; and in like manner to levy, clothe, pay and provide for, such proportion of forces upon the military establishment of America, as shall be equitable upon the circumstances of the case, and upon consideration of the respective abilities of each province; such forces to act either separately, or in conjunction with any other of his Majesty's forces, and to be under the supreme command of all such officers, as his Majesty shall think proper to appoint. His Majesty will order an account to be laid before the several assemblies, of the naval and military establishments, which his Majesty hereby requires them to furnish.

His Majesty is not unmindful of the many restraints and prohibitions which the colonies are under, in respect to their commerce and manufactures; and that many of the regulations established by the authority of the British Parliament operate to the same effect (though indirectly) as taxes. This is the accepted condition of their emigration, to continue subordinate to the British commerce, and instrumental to the support and extension of British manufactures, while they are left at liberty themselves to spread into the continent of North-America. But as many of these regulations and restraints were formed in old times, when the principles of commerce were perhaps ill understood, and as it may be found that many of them are nugatory, or vexatious to the American colonies, without being beneficial to Great-Britain, his Majesty hopes, that an amicable compliance with the above-mentioned reasonable requisitions, and an ostensible contribution on the part of the colonies to the general parliamentary supply, will pave the way for many relaxations in the articles of commerce. And his Majesty gives the strongest assurances to his colonists, that he will, at all times, recommend to his Parliament, to revise, repeal, explain, amend and relax, all such restraints and prohibitions, as shall appear to be frivolous, unjust, impolitic and oppressive to the colonies.

"It is with great grief that his Majesty, who is the common father of his people, and views with an equal eye of affection, his subjects in every part of his dominions, has of late years observed the very unhappy divisions, which have subsisted between his British Parliament and the assemblies of his American subjects; and that needless and imprudent discussions of speculative points,

[For the Remainder see the Fourth Page.]

The **TWELVE UNITED COLONIES, by their
DELEGATES in CONGRESS, to the INHABITANTS
of GREAT-BRITAIN.**

FRIENDS, COUNTRYMEN, and BRETHREN!

BY these, and by every appellation, that may designate the ties which bind US to each other, we entreat your serious attention to this our second attempt to prevent their dissolution.—Remembrance of former friendships, pride in the glorious achievements of our common ancestors, and affection for the heirs of their virtues, have hitherto preserved our mutual connection; but when that friendship is violated by the grossest injuries,—when the pride of ancestry becomes our reproach, and we are no otherwise allied than as tyrants and slaves, when reduced to the melancholy alternative of renouncing your favor, or our freedom,—can we hesitate about the choice? Let the spirit of Britons determine.

In a former Address, we asserted our Rights, and stated the injuries we had then received. We hoped, that the mention of our wrongs would have roused that honest indignation, which has slept too long for your honor, or the welfare of the empire.—But we have not been permitted to entertain this pleasing expectation; every day brought an accumulation of injuries, and the invention of the ministry has been constantly exercised, in adding to the calamities of your American Brethren.

After the most valuable right of legislation was infringed, when the power assumed by your parliament, in which we are not represented, and from our local and other circumstances cannot properly be represented, rendered our property precarious; after being denied that mode of trial to which we have long been indebted for the safety of our persons, and the preservation of our liberties;—after being in many instances divested of those laws, which were transmitted to US by our common ancestors, and subjected to an arbitrary code, compiled under the auspices of Roman tyrants; after annulling those charters, which encouraged our predecessors to brave death and danger in every shape, on unknown seas, in deserts unexplored, amidst barbarous and inhospitable nations;—when, without the form of trial, without a public accusation, whole colonies were condemned;—their trade destroyed; their inhabitants impoverished; when soldiers were encouraged to embrace their hands in the blood of Americans, by offers of impunity;—when new modes of trial were instituted for the ruin of the accused, where the charge carried with it the horrors of conviction;—when a despotic government was established in a neighbouring province, and its limits extended to every of our frontiers;—we little imagined that any thing could be added to this black catalogue of unprovoked injuries;—but we have unhappily been deceived; and the late measures of the British Ministry fully convince us, that their object is the reduction of these colonies to slavery and ruin.

To confirm this assertion, let us recal your attention to the affairs of America, since our last address; let us combat the calumnies of our enemies; and let us warn you of the dangers that threaten you in our destruction. Many of your fellow subjects, whose situation deprived them of other support, drew their maintenance from the sea; but the deprivation of our Liberty being insufficient to satisfy the resentment of our enemies, the horrors of famine were superadded, and a British Parliament, who, in better times, were the protectors of innocence and the patrons of humanity, have, without distinction of age or sex, robbed thousands of the food, which they were accustomed to draw from that inexhaustible source, placed in their neighbourhood by the benevolent Creator.

Another act of your legislature shuts our ports and prohibits our trade with any but those States, from whom the great law of self-preservation renders it absolutely necessary we should at present withhold our commerce.—But this act (whatever may have been its design) we consider rather as injurious to your opulence, than our interest.—All our commerce terminates with you; and the wealth we procure from other nations is soon exchanged for your superfluities.—Our remittances must then cease with our trade, and our refinements with our affluence.—We trust however, that laws which deprive us of every blessing, but a foil that teems with the necessities of life, and that liberty which renders the enjoyment of them secure, will not relax our vigour in their defence.

We might here observe on the cruelty and inconsistency of those, who, while they publicly brand us with reproachful and unworthy epithets, endeavour to deprive us of the means of defence, by their interposition with foreign powers, and to deliver us to the lawless ravages of a merciless soldiery. But happily we are not without resources; and tho' the timid and humiliating applications of a British ministry should prevail with foreign nations, yet industry, prompted by necessity, will not leave us without the necessary supplies.

We could wish to go no further, and, not to wound the ear of humanity, leave untold those rigorous acts of oppression which are daily exercised in the town of Boston, did we not hope, that by disclaiming their deeds, and punishing the perpetrators, you would shortly vindicate the honour of the British name, and re-establish the violated laws of justice.

That once populous, flourishing and commercial town is now garrisoned by an army sent, not to protect, but to enslave its inhabitants.—The civil government is overturned, and a military despotism erected upon its ruins.—Without law, without right, powers are assumed unknown to the constitution.—Private property is unjustly invaded.—The inhabitants, daily subjected to the licentiousness of the soldiery, are forbid to remove, in defiance of their natural rights, in violation of the most solemn compacts.—Or if, after long and wearisome solicitation, a pass is procured, their effects are detained, and even those who are most favoured have no alternative but poverty or slavery. The distress of many thousand people, wantonly deprived of the necessities of life, is a subject on which we would not wish to enlarge.

Yet we cannot but observe, that a British fleet (unjustified even by acts of your legislature, are daily employed in ruining our commerce, seizing our ships, and depriving whole communities of their daily bread. Nor will a regard for your honour permit us to be silent, while British troops fully your glory by actions, which the most inveterate enmity will not palliate among civilized nations, the wanton and unnecessary destruction of Charleston, a large, ancient and once populous town, just before deserted by its inhabitants, who had fled, to avoid the fury of your soldiery.

If you still retain those sentiments of compassion, by which Britons have ever been distinguished—if the humanity which tempered the valour of our common ancestors has not degenerated into cruelty, you will lament the miseries of their descendants.

To what are we to attribute this treatment? If to any secret principle of the constitution, let it be mentioned; let us learn that the government we have long revered is

not without its defects, and that while it gives freedom to a part, it necessarily enslaves the remainder of the empire. If such a principle exists, why for ages has it ceased to operate? Why at this time is it called into action? Can no reason be assigned for this conduct? Or must it be resolved into the wanton exercise of arbitrary power? And shall the descendants of Britons tamely submit to this—No Sirs! We never will, while we revere the memory of our gallant and virtuous ancestors, we never can surrender those glorious privileges, for which they fought, bled, and conquered. Admit that your fleets could destroy our towns, and ravage our sea-coasts;—these are inconsiderable objects, things of no moment, to men whose bosoms glow with the ardor of liberty.—We can retire beyond the reach of your navy, and without any sensible diminution of the necessities of life, enjoy a luxury which from that period you will want; **THE LUXURY OF BEING FREE.**

We know the force of your arms, and was it called forth in the cause of justice and your country, we might dread the exertion; but will Britons fight under the banners of tyranny? Will they counteract the labours, and disgrace the victories of their ancestors? Will they forge chains for their posterity? If they defend to this unworthy task, will their swords retain their edge, their arms their accustomed vigour?—Britons can never become the instruments of oppression, till they lose the spirit of freedom, by which alone they are invincible.

Our enemies charge us with sedition: In what does it consist? In our refusal to submit to unwarrantable acts of injustice and cruelty? if so, shew us a period in your history, in which you have not been equally seditious?

We are accused of aiming at Independence; but how is this accusation supported? By the allegations of your ministers, not by our actions.—Abused, insulted and contemned, what steps have we pursued to obtain redress? We have carried our dutiful petitions to the throne;—we have applied to your justice for relief, we have retrenched our luxury and withheld our trade.

The advantages of our commerce were designed as a compensation for your protection: When you ceased to protect, for what were we to compensate?

What has been the success of our endeavours? The clemency of our sovereign is unhappily diverted; our petitions are treated with indignity; our prayers answered by insults. Our application to you remains unnoticed, and leaves us the melancholy apprehension of your wanting either the will, or the powers, to assist us.

Even under these circumstances, what measures have we taken that betray a desire of Independence? Have we called in the aid of those foreign powers, who are the rivals of your grandeur? When your troops were few and defenceless, did we take advantage of their distress, and expel them from our towns? Or have we permitted them to fortify, to receive new aid and to acquire additional strength?

Let not your enemies and ours persuade you, that in this we were influenced by fear, or any other unworthy motive. The lives of Britons are still dear to us.—They are the Children of our Parents, an uninterrupted intercourse of mutual benefits had knit the bonds of friendship.—When hostilities were commenced, when on a late occasion we were wantonly attacked by your troops, though we repelled their assaults, and returned their blows, yet we lamented the wounds they obliged us to give; nor have we yet learned to rejoice at a victory over Englishmen.

As we wish not to colour our actions, or disguise our thoughts, we shall, in the simple language of truth, avow the measures we have pursued, the motives upon which we have acted, and our future designs.

When our late petition to the throne produced no other effect than fresh injuries, and votes of your legislature, calculated to justify every severity; when your fleets, and your armies, were prepared to wrest from us our property, to rob us of our liberties or our lives; when the hostile attempts of General Gage evinced his designs, we levied armies for our security and defence; when the powers vested in the Governor of Canada, gave us reason to apprehend danger from that quarter, and we had frequent intimations, that a cruel and savage enemy was to be let loose upon the defenceless inhabitants of our frontiers; we took such measures as prudence dictated, as necessity will justify. We possessed ourselves of Crown-Point and Ticonderoga. Yet give us leave most solemnly to assure you, that we have not yet lost sight of the object we have ever had in view—a reconciliation with you on constitutional principles, and a restoration of that friendly intercourse, which, to the advantage of both, we till lately maintained.

The inhabitants of this country apply themselves chiefly to agriculture and commerce. As their fashions and manners are similar to yours, your markets must afford them the conveniences and luxuries for which they exchange the produce of their labours. The wealth of this extended continent centers with you; and our trade is so regulated, as to be subservient only to your interest. You are too reasonable to expect that by taxes (in addition to this) we should contribute to your expence; to believe, after diverting the fountain, that the streams can flow with unabated force.

It has been said, that we refuse to submit to the restrictions on our commerce. From whence is this inference drawn? Not from our words, we having repeatedly declared the contrary; and we again profess our submission to the several acts of trade and navigation passed before the year 1763, trusting nevertheless in the equity and justice of Parliament, that such of them as, upon cool and impartial consideration, shall appear to have imposed unnecessary or grievous restrictions, will, at some happier period, be repealed or altered. And we cheerfully consent to the operation of such acts of the British Parliament, as shall be restrained to the regulation of our external commerce, for the purpose of securing the commercial advantages of the whole empire to the Mother-country, and the commercial benefits of its respective members, excluding every idea of taxation, internal or external, for raising a revenue on the subjects in America without their consent.

It is alleged that we contribute nothing to the common defence; to this we answer, that the advantages which Great-Britain receives from the monopoly of our trade, far exceeds our proportion of the expence necessary for that purpose. But should these advantages be inadequate thereto, let the restrictions on our trade be removed, and we will cheerfully contribute such proportion when constitutionally required.

It is a fundamental principle of the British constitution, that every man should have at least a representative share in the formation of those laws by which he is bound. Were it otherwise, the regulation of our internal police by a British Parliament, who are, and ever will be, unacquainted with our local circumstances, must be always inconvenient, and frequently oppressive, working our wrong, without yielding any possible advantage to you.

A plan of accommodation (as it has been absurdly called) has been proposed by your ministers to our respective Assemblies. Were this proposal free from every other objection, but that which arises from the time of the offer, it would not be unexceptionable. Can men deliberate with the bayonet at their breast? Can they treat with freedom while their towns are sacked; when daily instances of injustice and oppression disturb the flower operations of reason?

If this proposal is really such as you should offer, and we accept, why was it delayed till the nation was put to useless expence, and we were reduced to our present melancholy situation?—If it holds forth nothing, why was it proposed? Unless indeed to deceive you into a belief that we were unwilling to listen to any terms of accommodation: But what is submitted to our consideration? we contend for the disposal of our property; we are told that our demand is unreasonable, that our assemblies may indeed collect our money, but that they must at the same time offer, not what your exigencies, or ours, may require, but so much as shall be deemed sufficient to satisfy the desires of a minister, and enable him to provide for favorites and dependants. (A recurrence to your own treasury will convince you how little of the money already extorted from us has been applied to the relief of your burthens.) To suppose that we would thus grasp the shadow, and give up the substance, is adding insult to injuries.

We have nevertheless again presented an humble and dutiful Petition to our Sovereign; and to remove every imputation of obstinacy, have requested his Majesty to direct some mode, by which the united applications of his faithful colonists may be improved into a happy and permanent reconciliation. We are willing to treat on such terms as can alone render an accommodation lasting, and we flatter ourselves, that our pacific endeavours will be attended with a removal of the troops, a repeal of those laws, of the operation of which we complain, on the one part, and a dissolution of our army and commercial associations, on the other.

Yet conclude not from this that we propose to surrender our property into the hands of your ministry, or vest your parliament with a power which may terminate in our destruction. The great bulwarks of our constitution we have desired to maintain by every temperate, by every peaceable means; but your ministers (equal foes to British and American freedom) have added to their former oppressions an attempt to reduce us by the sword to a base and abject submission. On the sword therefore we are compelled to rely for protection.—Should victory declare in your favour, yet men trained to arms from their infancy, and animated by the love of liberty, will afford neither a cheap or easy conquest.—Of this at least we are assured, that our struggle will be glorious, our success certain, since even in death we shall find that freedom which in life you forbid us to enjoy.

Let us now ask what advantages are to attend our reduction? the trade of a ruined and desolate country is always inconsiderable, its revenue trifling; the expence of subduing and retaining it in subjection, certain and inevitable. What then remains but the gratifications of an ill judged pride, or the hope of rendering us subservient to designs on your liberty.

Soldiers, who have sheathed their swords in the bowels of their American brethren, will not draw them with more reluctance against you. When too late, you may lament the loss of that freedom, which we exhort you, while still in your power, to preserve.

On the other hand, should you prove unsuccessful; should that connection, which we most ardently wish to maintain, be dissolved; should your ministers exhaust your treasures, waste the blood of your countrymen in vain attempts on our liberty; do they not deliver you, weak and defenceless, to your natural enemies?

Since then your liberty, must be the price of your victories; your ruin, of your defeat; what blind fatality can urge you to a pursuit destructive of all that Britons hold dear?

If you have no regard to the connection that has for ages subsisted between us; if you have forgot the wounds we received fighting by your side, for the extension of the empire; if our commerce is an object below your consideration; if justice and humanity have lost their influence on your hearts; still motives are not wanting to excite your indignation at the measures now pursued: your wealth, your honour, your liberty are at stake.

Notwithstanding the distress to which we are reduced, we sometimes forget our own afflictions, to anticipate and sympathize in yours. We grieve that rash and inconsiderate councils should precipitate the destruction of an empire, which has been the envy and admiration of ages. And call God to witness! that we would part with our property, endanger our lives, and sacrifice every thing but Liberty, to redeem you from ruin.

A cloud hangs over your heads and ours; e'er this reaches you, it may probably have burst upon us; let us then (before the remembrance of former kindness is obliterated) once more repeat those appellations which are ever grateful in our ears. Let us intreat heaven to avert our ruin, and the destruction that threatens our friends, brethren and countrymen, on the other side of the Atlantic.

By order of the CONGRESS,
JOHN HANCOCK, President.
Attested by **CHARLES THOMSON, Secretary.**
Philadelphia, July 8, 1775.

CHARLES-TOWN (South-Carolina) June 23.
Last Saturday Evening his Excellency the Right Hon. Lord WILLIAM CAMPBELL, Governor in Chief, &c. &c. of this Province, arrived here in his Majesty's Sloop Scorpion. His Excellency was immediately saluted by a Discharge of the Cannon in the Fort and Bastions, and the Tamar Man of War.

IN PROVINCIAL CONGRESS,
Charleston, Wednesday, June 21, 1775.

ORDERED,
THAT the Hon. William-Henry Drayton, the Hon. Capt. Bernard Elliot, Col. Charles Pinckney, Col. James Parsons, Col. Isaac Motte, Col. Stephen Bull, Col. William Moultrie, Major Owen Roberts, Capt. Thomas Savage, Capt. John Huger, Miles Brewton, Thomas Fergusson, and Gabriel Capres, Esquires, be a Deputation, to present to his Excellency the Governor the Address of this Congress.

SOUTH-CAROLINA.
To His Excellency the Right Honourable LORD WILLIAM CAMPBELL, Governor and Commander in Chief in and over the province aforesaid.
The humble Address and Declaration of the Provincial Congress.

May it please your Excellency,
WE his Majesty's loyal subjects, the Representatives of the people of this colony, in Congress assembled, beg leave to disclose to your Excellency the true causes of our proceedings; not only that upon your arrival among

us, you may receive no unfavourable impression of our conduct, but that we may stand justified to the world.

When the ordinary modes of application for redress of grievances, and the usual means of defence against arbitrary impositions have failed, mankind generally have had recourse to those that are extraordinary. Hence the origin of the Continental Congress, and hence the present representation of the people in this colony.

It is unnecessary to enumerate the grievances of America; they have been so often represented that your Excellency cannot be a stranger to them. Let it therefore suffice to say, that the hands of his Majesty's Ministers have long lain heavy, now press us with intolerable weight. We declare, that no love of innovation, no desire of altering the constitution of government, no lust of independence, has had the least influence upon our councils: But, alarmed and roused by a long succession of arbitrary proceedings by wicked administrations, impressed with the greatest apprehensions of inflamed insurrections, and deeply affected by the commencement of hostilities by the British troops against this continent, solely for the preservation and in defence of our lives, liberties and properties, we have been impelled to associate, and to take up Arms.

We sincerely deplore those slanderous Informations, and wicked Councils, by which his Majesty has been led into Measures, which, if persisted in, must inevitably involve America in all the Calamities of Civil War, and rend the British Empire. We only desire the secure Enjoyment of our invaluable Rights, and we wish for nothing more ardently, than a speedy Reconciliation with our Mother Country, upon constitutional Principles.

Conscious of the Justice of our Cause, and the Integrity of our Views, we readily profess our loyal Attachment to our Sovereign, his Crown and Dignity: And trusting the Event to Providence, we prefer Death to Slavery.

These Things we have thought it our duty to declare, that your Excellency, and through you, our august Sovereign, our Fellow Subjects, and the whole World, may clearly understand, that our taking up Arms is the Result of dire Necessity, and in Compliance with the first Law of Nature.

We entreat and trust, that your Excellency will make such a Representation of the State of this Colony, and of our true Motives, as to assure his Majesty, that, in the midst of all our complicated Distresses, he has no Subjects in his wide Dominions, who more sincerely desire to testify their Loyalty and Affection, or who would be more willing to devote their Lives and Fortunes in his real Service.

By Order of the Provincial Congress, at
Charlestown, June 20th, 1775.

HENRY LAURENS, President.

The Deputation being returned, the Honourable Mr. Drayton reported, that they having delivered the Address to the Governor, his Excellency was pleased to make the following Answer:

Gentlemen,
I KNOW of no Representatives of the People of this Province, except those constitutionally convened in General Assembly, and am incompetent to judge of the Disputes which at present unhappily subsist between Great-Britain and the American Colonies.

It is impossible, during the short Interval since my Arrival, that I should have acquired such a Knowledge of the State of the Province, as to be at present able to make any Representation thereupon to his Majesty, but you may be assured that no Representations shall be ever made by me, but what shall be consistent with Truth, and with an earnest Endeavour to promote the real Happiness and Prosperity of the Province.

June 21st, 1775. WM. CAMPBELL.

Published by Order of the Congress,
PETER TIMOTHY, Secretary.

June 27. The Provincial Congress have requested, by public advertisement, that men of every denomination and persuasion would carry with them, to all places of divine worship, loaded fire-arms, which, on Sunday last, was almost generally complied with.

WATER TOWN, July 3.

Capt. Telford arrived at Newbury last Wednesday, in 21 days from Newfoundland, and informs us, that a greater number of vessels had arrived from Europe for the fishery than usual, as the colonies were not permitted to fish on the banks there; but finding they could not procure flour, &c. several vessels returned home before Capt. Telford failed, and many more were soon to follow (their voyages being broken up) in order, it is presumed, to settle the fare with my Lord North!

The Hon. GEORGE WASHINGTON, Esq; appointed by the Continental Congress General and Commander in Chief of all the New-England forces, passed through this town yesterday, on his way to Cambridge, attended by a Committee from the Provincial Congress, and a train of other gentlemen, escorted by a company of horse from Malborough.

There has been an exchange of cannon almost every day this week past, between the enemy at Boston Neck, and our troops at Roxbury; and yesterday morning about 4 o'clock a very heavy cannonade began and continued till after 8; but we have not heard of any particulars, saving that the enemy fired two houses near the burying-ground in Roxbury, by bombs, and that our forces have demolished the house lately occupied by Mr. Brown, on Boston Neck.

PROVIDENCE, July 1.

By a return made a few days since at the head quarters of the American army, it appears, that only 48 provincials were killed in the late battle at Bunker's Hill, and 131 wounded; 30 of the latter were taken prisoners, and 6 have since died of their wounds in Boston; the prisoners that remain with the enemy (24 in number) are like to recover.

Several persons who have escaped from Boston assert, that the enemy had 1000 men killed, including those who had died of their wounds by Wednesday evening; and that 700 wounded officers and soldiers remained then in hospitals.—The Welch fusiliers were nearly all cut off; only one Captain and 17 privates, it is said, remain of that regiment.

NEW-PORT, July 3.

The General Assembly of this colony met at Providence last Wednesday; they ordered 360 more men to be raised to join the Grand Army, and a quarter part of the militia of the colony to be enlisted as Minute-men, dispatched some other important business, and adjourned to the third Monday in August.

PHILADELPHIA, July 12.

Extract of a letter from London, dated April 18.

"Our last accounts from America give us no prospect of reconciliation; and I must acknowledge that our measures have had no tendency to encourage it. We have now, I hope, finished all the mischief of the Sessions,

and must wait for intelligence from you to complete the history of our proceedings. Our Ministers have concerted the plan, but the execution of it must depend upon General Gage and the colonies. You, I am sure, will be for putting off violence and bloodshed to the last extremity. But if war should be unavoidable (which God forbid) I will still hope that it may be carried on as it ought to be between nations, who were lately friends, and who wish to be friends again. It is hard, that when the most reasonable people on both sides have no disagreement in opinion, and indeed have nothing to dispute about, our countries should engage in an unnatural war, to save the credit of a Ministry who have none to lose. The wisest and best men I am acquainted with are so far from wishing to enslave you, that we look upon the preservation of your liberties as the strongest security of our own."

Extract of a Letter from Gibraltar.

The part of the Spanish armament that had been prepared at Cadiz and Ferrol, consisting of 120 to 130 sail of men of war, bomb ketches and transports, passed the Straights on the 5th instant, and we have since advice of their arrival at Carthage, where they have been joined by 174 transports, conveyed by 4 men of war from Barcelona, which with what have got ready at Carthage, Alicante and Malaga, will form a very formidable armament. Their destination is given out to be and very probably is for Algiers, but we are not perfectly at our ease here, as in our present defenceless state by sea, with not one ship of war in this bay, and only the Admiral's ship and one frigate, on the Mediterranean station, we should be very disagreeably circumstanced, should the Spaniards direct the force they have now on the water against this garrison.

Extract of a letter from Cambridge, dated Monday, July 3.

"The greatest civility and attention was paid to the Generals on their arrival at the camp, which was on Sunday about noon. When they were within 20 miles of the camp, they received an express that the Parliamentary troops had, on Saturday morning, about 6 o'clock, begun a very heavy cannonading on the town of Roxbury, which continued better than 2 hours, without intermission, tho' with little or no loss on the side of the Provincials, and that they expected a general attack on Sunday, about two o'clock, at the time of high water; that we had confirmed, and this I believe was prevented by a heavy rain, which began at half past 12, and continued till late at night. The Generals have spent this whole day in reviewing the troops, lines, fortifications, &c. They find the troops to be 15,000 strong, and the works to be in as good order as could be expected. The Regulars have been founding the shore this afternoon, and we are in some expectation of a visit at the next high water. Our men are all in good spirits, and wish they may come out. The best account we can get of the late engagement is, that the Regulars lost more than 800 in the field, and 700 wounded.

"Among the slain are Col. Williams, Major Pitcairn, and Major Sheriffe: It remains a matter of doubt whether or not General Burgoyne is among the dead; this we are certain of, that General Howe commanded the first division, of 1700, and General Burgoyne the second, of 1300, and since the battle he has not been seen in Boston; 'tis given out that he is gone to England. The provincials had not more than 700 in the action. The Welch fusiliers, the best regiment in the English army, carried from the field no more than 17 privates and one Captain. It is also certain they lost 84 officers.

Tuesday morning, 6 o'clock.

"Four horses of Preston's regiment fell into the hands of our enemies this morning, which was owing to the regulars calling in all their out centres, as they expected a general attack from the provincials, which we suppose was owing to our viewing all their lines yesterday evening; we went so near as to make them apprehensive we were reconnoitering, in order to find some place fit to begin an attack. The loss of the provincials, as by the return made to General Washington this morning, is 138 killed, 301 wounded, and 17 missing."

We are informed that the PEOPLE CALLED QUAKERS, at a meeting in this city a few days since, have agreed to recommend it to their brethren, in their several meetings in this province and New-Jersey, to promote subscriptions to raise money for the relief of the necessitous of all religious denominations, who are reduced to losses and distress in this time of public calamity, to be distributed among them by a Committee of their brethren in New-England, and a Committee appointed for the same purpose here.

On Friday evening a very excellent discourse was delivered at Christ-Church, by the Rev. Mr. Duche, to the Gentlemen of the first battalion of the City Militia.

Last week Mr. THOMAS LAWRENCE, merchant, of this city, was married to Miss MORRIS, daughter of Col. Lewis Morris, of Morrisania, in the county of Westchester, and province of New-York; a young lady of great merit and beauty.

Chester County, July 7, 1775.

THE Committee of Chester county are desired to meet at the house of Richard Cheyney, in Downing's-town, on Friday, the 21st instant, precisely at Ten o'clock, A. M. on urgent business.

ANTHONY WAYNE, Chairman.

* * * The Board of Commissioners and Assessors, as also the Military Officers of Chester county, are particularly requested to attend at the time and place aforesaid, when matters of the first consequence, in which they are immediately concerned, will be laid before them.

CUSTOM-HOUSE, Philadelphia, INWARD ENTRIES.

Sloop Sally, J. Albersson, from New-York. Schooner Rebecca, J. Holden, and Sloop Cedar, C. Rothery, Virginia. Ship Sally, J. Adams, and Brig Dolphin, J. Hunn, Jamaica. Ship Friendship, T. Jann, Leith. Brig Mount-Holly, G. Carr, London. Sloop Outley, J. Young, Montserrat. Schooner Hetty, J. Smart, Hispaniola. Snow Champion, R. James, Guadaloupe. Schooner Lively, J. Walth, Barbados. Sloop Friendship, V. Clark, Grenades. Snow Patty and Peggy, R. Hardie, Oporto. Schooner Two Brothers, J. Williams, Surinam. Sloop Ranger, J. Mitchell, Maryland. Brig Sea-Nymph, W. Moore, from South-Carolina.

Outwards. Brig Dove, W. Timmons, for Tercera. Brig Dolphin, J. Scott, Jamaica. Brig John, J. Blyth, and Brig St. Patrick, B. Oallagher, Liverpool. Schooner Hannah, J. Neill, Cork. Snow Charlotte, J. Gaffney, Waterford. Ship Lyon, J. Wilson, Corunna. Schooner Mary, J. Perott, Dominica.

Cleared. Brig King George, G. Giddis, to Hispaniola. Schooner Fair Lady, S. Nuttle, Gibraltar. Brig Polly, W. M'Fadon, Tortola. Ship Barbados-Packet, W. Kennedy, Ship Commerce, W. Price, Ship Prosperity, J. Clifton, and Brig Thomas, J. Baxter, Bristol. Schooner Sally, P. Cooke, Dartmouth, N. England. Brig Kingston, S. Conyngham, and Sloop Sally, J. Berles, Antigua. Snow Penn, J. Magee, Cadix. Brig Rachel, L. Simmons, Lisbon. Brig Hetty, J. Lott, Barcelona. Brig Dolphin, J. Scott, Jamaica. Sloop Defiance, S. Hatch, North-Carolina. Schooner Charlotte, J. Northey, to Machias, N. E.

IRISH LINENS, of various Prices, TO BE SOLD, on reasonable Terms, for Cash, by THOMAS GLATHRY, At Mr. ROBERT HUNTER'S, in Second-street, between Chestnut and Market-streets.

BY virtue of a writ to me directed, will be sold by public vendue, on Monday, the 24th day of July inst. at 3 o'clock in the afternoon, at the house of Christian Riffert, in the Northern Liberties, a certain three story brick messuage or tenement, and lot or piece of ground thereunto belonging, situate on the east side of Second street continued into the Northern Liberties aforesaid, and between Vine and Callowhill-streets; containing in front 15 feet, and in depth 130 feet; bounded by ground now or late of Daniel Benzett, and others; late the estate of Levi Drahl; seized and taken in execution by WILLIAM DEWEES, Sheriff.

BY virtue of a writ to me directed, will be sold by public vendue, on Tuesday, the 25th day of July inst. at 3 o'clock in the afternoon, on the premises, that commodious and pleasantly seated INN, commonly called the Jolly Post, with the appurtenances, and tract or piece of land thereunto belonging; situate on the west side of the Bristol road, about 6 miles from Philadelphia, in the township of Oxford; containing 45 acres and 26 perches; late the estate of Joseph Thornhill; seized and taken in execution by WILLIAM DEWEES, Sheriff.

WANTED to purchase, or rent, a small Plantation, with tolerable good Improvements thereon, within a few Miles of Philadelphia. Likewise two or three Rooms in a good House near the City are wanted.

N. B. A NEGROE WENCH, and the Time of an English Servant GIRL, very suitable for the Country, to be disposed of. Enquire of the PRINTERS hereof. 6w.

TO BE SOLD,

ALIKELY NEGROE WENCH, about 25 Years old, with a Female Child, about 4 Years old; the real Cause of her being sold will be made known. Apply to the PRINTERS of this Paper.

TO BE SOLD,

TWO valuable NEGROES, a Man and his Wife, both young and hearty, have had the Small-pox, and been bred up in the Country, the Man to Farming and the Woman to Housewifery, sold for no Fault but Want of Employ. They have a fine promising Male Child, two Years old, that has had the Small-pox, likewise to be sold with them, if the Purchaser chooses. Enquire of the PRINTERS.

ALL persons indebted to the estate of THOMAS KEATES, late of this city, deceased, or to the partnership of FOULK and KEATES, are desired to discharge the same; and those that have any demands against said estate, or partnership of FOULK and KEATES, are requested to bring in their accounts to ELIZABETH KEATES, Executrix, or to ADAM FOULK, who has for sale a quantity of choice almonds, sweet oil, by the chest, and split pease, per the keg, which he will sell on very reasonable terms. Philadelphia, July 11, 1775.

Pequea, Salisbury Township, July 9, 1775.

THREE DOLLARS Reward.

STRAYED away from the subscriber, on Friday, the 30th ult. a small dark bay HORSE, about 13½ hands high, 3 years old last spring, has a remarkably small tail, branded on the off buttock with the figure 9, and shod all round. Whoever secures the said horse, so that the owner may have him again, shall receive the above reward, and reasonable charges, paid by ROBERT SMITH.

NINE POUNDS Reward.

RUN away from the subscriber, this morning, three indentured servants; the one named Nicholas Linch, an Irishman, a Brass-founder by trade, about 26 years of age, about 5 feet 8 inches high, thin and smooth-faced, has large grey eyes, brown hair; had on, when he went away, a light blue coat, with a remarkable greasy spot on the back, a waistcoat of the same colour, black knit breeches, a pair of spotted thread stockings, and another grey worsted, a pair of black grained shoes, almost new, with metal buckles, an old check shirt, and an old hat. Samuel Bird, an Englishman, by trade an Upholsterer, about 20 years of age, 5 feet 8 inches high, full and smooth faced, has sandy hair, and stoops in his walk; had on, when he went away, a brown coat, jacket of the same colour, fustian breeches, white cotton stockings, old shoes, and an old hat. William Sprague, an English servant man, about 5 feet 4 inches high, a Shoemaker by trade; had on, when he went away, a blue coat, a spotted linen jacket, and ticking breeches; he is about 26 years of age. Whoever takes up said servants, and secures them, so that their masters may have them again, shall have the above reward for both, or Three Pounds for either of them, and reasonable charges, paid by THOMAS PALMER, Gunsmith, in Market-street, or JOHN DAVIS, in Arch-street, opposite Moravian-alley, or JOHN THORNTON, in Philadelphia. June 28, 1775.

JULY 9, 1775.

FOUR DOLLARS REWARD.

RUN away, last night, from the subscriber, a Spanish servant man, named Francisco Deherara, about 5 feet 7 inches high, dark complexion, very black beard, had a very large scar on the fore finger of his left hand; had on, when he went away, a black grey jacket, homespun shirt and tow trousers, country strong shoes, with strings. Whoever takes up said servant, and secures him, so that his master may get him, shall have the above reward, paid by JONATHAN JOHNSON.

Salisbury Township, June 29, 1775.

TWENTY SHILLINGS REWARD.

RUN away, last night, from the subscriber, an indentured Irish servant girl, named Nancy Mackey, alias Munks; she is of a middle stature, light brown hair, has a remarkable sharp nose, is pitted with the small-pox, and speaks a little with the brogue in the pronunciation of some words; she had on, and took with her, a calico gown, a short gown of ditto, black Barcelona handkerchief, a striped lincey petticoat, a black rattin quilted ditto, and new black taffaty bonnet; she will, very probably, endeavour to pass for a free woman, but as she has had two bastard children, and ran away last summer, she has not yet served the time of her second indenture. Whoever secures said servant in any goal, and gives notice to her master, or brings her home, shall receive the above reward, and reasonable charges, paid by ROBERT SMITH.



FOR LIVERPOOL, The BRIG JOHN, JOHN BLYTH, Master, WILL sail in eight Days. For Freight or Passage, apply to ANDREW CALDWELL. Philadelphia, July 11, 1775.



FOR LONDON, The SHIP MINERVA, ARTHUR HILL, MASTER, WILL sail in eight Days. For Passage, apply to JOSEPH CARSON, in Market-street, or said Master on board, at James and Drinker's Wharf. Philadelphia, July 8, 1775.

from mutual misapprehensions, have been converted into anger and animosities, which threaten the most fatal consequences. His Majesty is too well acquainted with the natural justice and moderation of his British Parliament, to believe that they could ever entertain the thought of any known or intended injustice or grievance to their fellow subjects in America, and from the many recent and repeated proofs of obedience, loyalty and affection, from the colonists, and of their liberality and disinterested zeal for the honour of his Majesty's arms, which they have freely and cheerfully followed into distant climates, after the complete conquest of America, he is equally assured that his American subjects, are incapable of being influenced by narrow or selfish motives. His Majesty has the fullest confidence, in the repeated declarations of his American colonies, who have separately and collectively declared, "That they do sincerely recognize their allegiance to his crown, and all due subordination to the Parliament of Great-Britain; that they shall always retain the most grateful sense of the assistance and protection, which they have received; that their lives and fortunes are entirely devoted to his Majesty's service, to which, on his royal requisitions, they have ever been ready to contribute, to the utmost of their ability." Therefore his Majesty has the fullest dependence, "That whenever the exigencies of the state may require it, they will, as they have heretofore done, cheerfully contribute their full proportion of men and money." His Majesty entertains the most confident hope, from the upright intentions of both parties, that upon a cool re-consideration of the original matters in dispute, which his Majesty has endeavoured to state upon the grounds of reason, with fairness and impartiality, all unhappy animosities and civil distractions, will be composed upon the solid foundations of equity and justice; and that all things will be restored to that happy state of harmony and mutual affection, which subsisted at the termination of the late glorious war; and that every hostile and vindictive act or declaration, which has passed from the commencement of these unfortunate troubles, will be buried in everlasting oblivion.

"It would be a grievous affliction to his Majesty, to see the courage of his faithful subjects averted to civil dissensions, and the lustre of the national arms stained with civil blood; to see the general peace and tranquility broken, and invitations thereby thrown out to his enemies, to disturb the glories of his reign; to see the unhappy divisions of this kingdom against itself, giving courage to their secret resentments, and tempting them, in an evil hour, to resume those hostile purposes against his Majesty's dominions, which the united and compacted powers of the whole House of Bourbon were unable, in the late glorious war, to accomplish, against the then united and compacted arms of Great-Britain and America. His Majesty's most earnest and most anxious wishes are, to see unanimity restored amongst all his subjects, that they may long enjoy in peace the fruits of those common victories which have heretofore cemented them in one general cause; that living in harmony and brotherly kindness one towards another, and in one common obedience to the supreme legislature, they may join all hands with one heart, to support the dignity of his Crown, the just authority of Parliament, the true and combined interests of Great-Britain and America; and thus transmit to posterity, with everlasting honour, the united empire of these kingdoms."

This is the plan, and the terms, or to the effect, that, according to the best of my judgment, a requisition on the present subject should be drawn. I have endeavoured to state the case in such a manner, as may open a way to reconciliation on both sides. Make your requisitions free, and let them be founded in reason and justice; and there are no subjects in any kingdom that will be deaf to reason, justice, common interest, and mutual obligations: and I am sure, from the repeated liberality and zeal of our colonies, we, of all the kingdoms in the world, have the least reason to distrust those of our own confanguinity.

I cannot think it a possible thing in our constitution, that any one seriously, upon a moment's reflection, can admit the thought of denying to the Americans their judgment upon the necessity or application of money required. That is the right of all free subjects, without which they have nothing that they can call their own. Let your requisitions be free, for reasonable and substantial services, and faithfully performed, and there is no example of a refusal in such a case, in any state. That consents are withheld, and ought so to be, in case of grievances unredressed, our own history abounds with examples. Our rights and liberties would have long ago been trampled under foot, but for that reserved power in the Commons. But a refusal, in a reasonable case, is as yet without example. Absurdity and caprice are not the principles which govern men, in the great concerns of state; but reason over-rules all little caprices. In Holland, the consent not only of the states general, but of the provincial states, and in many instances, I believe, of every town in each province, is necessary for great acts of state; and yet that negative never stands in the way against reason. Where measures have common sense, and common reason, for their foundation, they will never be obstructed; where they have not, they ought to be defeated.

But it is said, that we can hear of no terms with the Americans, who have been in a state of resistance to our Authority. Sir, I wish to cast no retrospect, but only to look forward to reconciliation, and to prevent the shedding of blood. The resolution of the noble Lord has confessed, and the House has adopted the truth of it, that requisition is the proper way. Your colonies have been calling out to you incessantly, for ten years, to make your demands by constitutional requisitions. This House, after a ten years misunderstanding, has confirmed that to be, in their opinion too, the right way. Then why not close now at least upon that ground, without retrospect. The colonies have been driven to resistance against their wills, lest they should have nothing that they could surely call their own. The right to take any nation's money indefinitely, without their consent, without measure, without account, without any enquiry into the application, is not to be conceded or compromised by any nation upon the earth. Resistance or ruin must infallibly be the consequence; and those who are compelled to resistance, by your having persevered in the principle of taking by force, till the noble Lord's proposition, which has at last condemned it, have been forced to deny that authority, which they always had, and always would have wished to acknowledge and support. It was that unconquerable and irresistible impulse of nature, self-defence, which cut off all retreat; then let us cast no retrospect. If the grounds of this unhappy dispute can be settled, all may be peace yet. If the Americans could be assured, that you would not again make

resistance absolutely necessary to their security, and very being as a people, they are ready enough to acknowledge their subordination, and all the rights of Great-Britain. Let them know, that peace and security to their rights and properties shall be the certain condition of acknowledging the supreme legislation of this country, and the matter is ended.

Sir, after I shall have received the determination of the House upon the motion for requisitions, I shall take the liberty to offer three other motions, for a suspension of the three vindictive American bills of the last session. The connection of these motions with the preceding, is too obvious to require any explanation or debate. I would only take leave to say, that I should not have moved for a mere suspension of these bills, if a motion for their repeal had not already been rejected by this House. Having given an unavailing vote for their repeal, I now come to entreat for the next degree, at least for suspension. You have excommunicated Boston, and proscribed the whole province of New-England unheard: then recollect your justice, and whether you send even the noble Lord's compulsory requisition to America, or this motion of mine for a free requisition; suspend your vindictive hand, and, whilst you treat for peace, arrest the sword.

Sir, I have now offered what I have to say upon this important subject. I have given it my most serious, I may say my only attention, ever since I have been in a situation to give a responsible vote upon it; and I heartily wish, that some means or other may be found in time to stop the effusion of civil blood. And here, Sir, I offer my poor sentiments to the House, and to the noble Lord, as in the place of Minister. It is a great responsibility that will lie at his door, who is to have the recommendation, I might say the decision, of the measures to be adopted. We on this side the House, who have opposed the whole system of American measures, have not done it merely for the sake of opposition. We have not sheltered ourselves under—No, no.—But we have declared our principles, we have offered our plans; and they must now remain with Great-Britain and America at large, to discuss and weigh their merits, to accept or to reject them. The noble Lord has a great ascendancy in this House. Perhaps his plan, if he has any thing to be called a plan, may find advocates and voices here. But our country at large, Great-Britain and America, must finally decide. My honourable friend near me [Mr. Burke] has, with unrivalled ability, opened to you his principles and plan. The Earl of Chatham has, in the other House, offered his provisional bill for conciliation, to the ministry there; and for myself, Sir, it is with the greatest deference and humility that I presume to offer any thing of mine, in conjunction with such great names and abilities. I can only plead the sincerity of my intentions, as an apology for my presumption. All our plans tend to one centre, and to one point of reconciliation, to save the effusion of blood between those who ought to be reciprocally good and useful friends. If the noble Lord has any secret feelings of relenting, as many of his friends, and many more who would be his friends, most sincerely wish, let him stand out, and do justice to his own feelings. His country calls upon him, not to give way to sanguinary and impatient councils, contrary to his own better judgment. This is the decisive hour; the fate of Great-Britain and America are depending.

The eyes of all this country, and America too, are turned towards the noble Lord, as the oftensible and responsible minister, to receive his final determination; as to the measures which are to decide the safety or ruin of this empire. The ways of peace are still before him. If war is to be the measure with America, let him consider, that it is not a majority of this House that can conquer America. The support of reason and justice to his measures will stand him better in stead, than the noisy tumult of a majority; in which majority, there may be lurking treacherous counsellors, and pretended friends, secretly urging him to his ruin, even against his own judgment. The important responsibility is out of measures. When the debates and measures of this year are transmitted to America, they may, perhaps, tell the noble Lord, had you pursued a plan of equity and justice, all had been peace. At home, one plan of conciliation has already been proposed, for which the city of London, foreseeing the certain ruin of other measures, has given thanks to its great and noble author, as an earnest for the rest of the kingdom. If Great-Britain and America should come to one mind of peace, they may unite to crush those men who keep them asunder.

He moved, That an humble address be presented to his Majesty, that he will be graciously pleased to give orders, that letters of requisition be written to the several provinces of his Majesty's colonies and plantations in America, to make provision for the purposes of defending, protecting and securing the said colonies and plantations; and that his Majesty will be pleased to order all such addresses as he shall receive, in answer to the aforesaid letters of requisition, to be laid before this House.

He also moved, 1. That leave be given to bring in a bill to suspend, for the term of three years, the force and execution of an act, passed in the last session of Parliament, entitled, "An act to discontinue, in such manner and for such time as are therein mentioned, the landing and discharging, lading or shipping of goods, wares or merchandize, at the town and within the harbour of Boston, in the province of Massachusetts-Bay, in New-England."

It passed in the negative.
2. That leave be given to bring in a bill to suspend, for the term of two years, an act passed in the last session of Parliament, entitled, "An act for the impartial administration of justice, in the cases of persons questioned for any acts done by them, in the execution of the law, or for the suppression of riots or tumults in the province of Massachusetts-Bay, in New-England."

It passed in the negative.
3. That leave be given to bring in a bill to suspend, for the term of three years, an act passed in the last session of Parliament, entitled, "An act for the better regulating the government of the province of Massachusetts-Bay, in New-England."

It passed in the negative.
NEW-JERSEY.
In Provincial Congress, at Trenton, May 24, 1775.
WHEREAS a majority of the several Representatives of this Colony in General Assembly, convened at Perth-Amboy, in January last, were instructed and authorized by their constituents to elect and appoint Delegates, to represent this province in the Continental Congress, now sitting at the city of Philadelphia; and

whereas the said General Assembly accordingly did elect and appoint Stephen Crane, James Kinsey, William Livingston, John De Hart, and Richard Smith, Esqrs. for that purpose; and whereas some of the counties of this colony omitted to instruct and authorize their said legislative Representatives for that Purpose, who, notwithstanding, cordially joined the other Representatives in the said election and appointment.—This Congress do therefore heartily approve of the said Stephen Crane, James Kinsey, William Livingston, John De Hart, and Richard Smith, as Representatives of this province in the said Continental Congress; and do also sincerely thank the House for the laudable regard they have shown for the rights and liberties of the good people of this province, in timely adopting the Continental Association, and resolving in favour of the resolutions and proceedings of the late Continental Congress. And it is unanimously agreed and resolved by this body, that it will be most eligible for the inhabitants of each respective county in this colony, whenever a Continental Congress shall be necessary, to appoint and empower deputies to meet in Provincial Congress, for the purpose of electing Delegates to represent this province in such Continental Congress.

A true Copy from the Minutes,
WILLIAM PATERSON, Secretary.

THE OWNERS AND POSSESSORS OF REPAUPA MARSH, are desired, by the Managers, to attend at the Repaupahouse, on the 17th of July inst. by Ten o'Clock of said Day, to make their Claim, and produce their Surveys and proper Titles for the same, as the Managers may proceed to survey and make a correct Map of each Owner's Share, in one general Plan of the whole Marsh, as they may proceed to assess the same, for defraying the Expence of stopping the Tide from overflowing the said Marsh, agreeable to an Act of Assembly of the Province of New-Jersey, made and provided for that Purpose.

JAMES HINCHMAN,
JAMES STEELMAN,
DANIEL SOUTHERLAND.

July 5, 1775.

THIRTY POUNDS Reward.

RUN away from the subscriber, living in Newtown township, Gloucester county, West New-Jersey, opposite Philadelphia, three Dutch servants; two on the 11th of May, man and wife, who have near 4 years to serve; the first named Henry Overkirk, about 5 feet high, thick set, has dark brown hair, is about 27 years old; had on, when he went away, a half-worn felt hat, a homespun cloth coloured jacket, with cuffs, black and white striped under jacket, white yarn stockings, and a pair of neat leather shoes; his wife, Barbara, is about 13 years old, about 4 feet 10 inches high, has dark brown hair, black eyes, a round visage, and a remarkable high black mole on her upper lip; had on, when she went away, a check linen short gown, with an apron to it, a striped lincey petticoat, white yarn stockings, and a pair of neat leather shoes: It is supposed they have two uncles living in the province of Pennsylvania, known by the name of Lawrence Good and ----- Keller, and it is likely they will endeavour to find them out. The other on the 14th of June, named Jacob Grips, who has near 3 years to serve, is about 35 years old, about 5 feet 8 inches high, full faced, fair complexion, brown hair, well set, has 3 large scars proceeding from one place on his forehead, is a Butcher by trade, and inclinable to drink too much; had on, and took with him, a half-worn felt hat, a cloth coloured homespun jacket, with cuffs, a black and white thread underjacket, one pair of leather breeches, of an olive colour, very greasy, one pair of white yarn stockings, and a pair of neat leather shoes. Whoever takes up and secures the said servants, so that their master may get them again, shall have the above reward, or Ten Pounds for each of them, and all reasonable charges, paid by
June 17, 1775. MARMADUKE COOPER.

STRAYED OR STOLEN, from the subscriber, living in Merion township, Philadelphia county, a small white HORSE, about 13 hands high, natural trotter; he has a little high of a pace, he is good in gears and under the saddle, he was shod new before, about 10 or 11 years old, on his off fore leg, just in the hollow of his leg, he has a lump. Whoever takes up the said Horse, and brings him to the subscriber, living by the Sign of the Buck, in the township aforesaid, shall receive TWO DOLLARS reward, and reasonable charges, paid by
CASPER WHITEMAN.

ALL persons indebted to the estate of SEBASTIAN ZIMMERMAN, Esq; late of Maxatawny township, Berks county, deceased, are hereby notified forthwith to come and pay off their respective balances, on or before the first day of September next; and all those who have any demands against the said estate, are requested to bring in their accounts, properly attested, within the said term, that they may be adjusted and paid; and all such debtors, who neglect to comply herewith, may expect to be dealt with as the law directs, without further notice.
ABRAHAM ZIMMERMAN, Executors.
JACOB MECHLIN,

RUN away, last night, from the subscriber, living near the Lancashire Iron-works, a convict servant man, named William Springer, about 23 or 24 years old, about 5 feet 5 inches high, of a dark complexion, short black hair; had on, and took with him, an ozenbrigs shirt, a blue grey cloth jacket, with basket buttons, a striped English lincey ditto, blue breeches and crooked trowsers, a felt hat, good country made shoes and buckles, a small rimmed hat turned up all round, commonly called a buck hat; he pretends to gardening and driving a team, is a great thief and drunkard, and it is supposed will steal a horse; he has talked much lately of joining Gage's party, if he could get away; he formerly belonged to John Robert Holliday, Esq; and was bought of him by the subscriber when in jail for his honesty. Whoever takes up and brings home said servant, shall receive, if taken within 10 miles, Twenty Shillings; if 20 miles, Forty Shillings; and if out of the province, Five Pounds, paid by
JOE GARRETSON.

THERE is in Prince-William County, July 5, 1775. Runaway Servants, viz. Mattes Brown, and Catherine his Wife, who say they belong to the Widow Lippencott in one of the Jerseys. Also a Servant Man, who says his Name is John Charles Bitts, and belongs to Thomas Smith in the Jerseys. The Owners are desired to take them away, and pay the Fees thereunto.
THOMAS YOUNG, Goaler.

All Sorts of Military Articles, such as Gunpowder-boxes, Moroccos and other Sword-belts, Scabbards, Pistol Holsters, Rangers Pouches, &c.
All made on the best Construction, by
WOLLEMAN,
In THIRD-STREET, about 6 Doors from the Workhouse, and nearly opposite the Harp and Crown Tavern, where the Military Gentlemen, from Town or Country, may be supplied on the most reasonable Terms, and on the shortest Notice.

ALL persons indebted to the Estate of JAMES RICKY, late of Philadelphia, deceased, are desired to pay the same immediately; and all those who have any Demands against said Estate, are desired to bring in their Accounts, properly proved, to ISAAC BEAL, RICHARD TOPP, CAD. DICKINSON, Executors.
Sixth Month 26, 1775.

POSTSCRIPT TO THE PENNSYLVANIA GAZETTE. No. 2429.

PHILADELPHIA.

A DECLARATION by the REPRESENTATIVES of the United Colonies of North-America, now met in GENERAL CONGRESS at Philadelphia, setting forth the CAUSES and NECESSITY of their taking up ARMS.

IF it was possible for men who exercise their reason to believe, that the Divine Author of our existence intended a part of the human race to hold an absolute property in, and an unbounded power over others, marked out by his infinite goodness and wisdom, as the objects of a legal domination, never rightfully resistable, however severe and oppressive, the inhabitants of these Colonies might at least require from the Parliament of Great-Britain some evidence, that this dreadful authority over them has been granted to that body. But a reverence for our great Creator, principles of humanity, and the dictates of common sense, must convince all those who reflect upon the subject, that government was instituted to promote the welfare of mankind, and ought to be administered for the attainment of that end. The legislature of Great-Britain, however stimulated by an inordinate passion for a power not only unjustifiable, but which they know to be peculiarly reprobated by the very constitution of that kingdom, and desperate of success in any mode of contest, where regard should be had to truth, law or right, have at length, deserting those, attempted to effect their cruel and impolitic purpose of enslaving these Colonies by violence, and have thereby rendered it necessary for us to close with their last appeal from Reason to Arms.—Yet, however blinded that assembly may be, by their intemperate rage for unlimited rule, to slight justice and the opinion of mankind, we esteem ourselves bound by obligations of respect to the rest of the world, to make known the justice of our cause.

Our forefathers, inhabitants of the island of Great-Britain, left their native land, to seek on these shores a residence for civil and religious freedom. At the expense of their blood, at the hazard of their fortunes, without the least charge to the country from which they removed, by unceasing labor and an unconquerable spirit, they effected settlements in the distant and inhospitable wilds of America, then filled with numerous and warlike nations of barbarians.—Societies or governments, vested with perfect legislatures, were formed under charters from the crown, and an harmonious intercourse was established between the colonies and the kingdom from which they derived their origin. The mutual benefits of this union became in a short time so extraordinary, as to excite astonishment. It is universally confessed, that the amazing increase of the wealth, strength and navigation of the realm, arose from this source; and the minister who so wisely and successfully directed the measures of Great-Britain in the late war, publicly declared, that these colonies enabled her to triumph over her enemies.—Towards the conclusion of that war, it pleased our Sovereign to make a change in his counsels.—From that fatal moment, the affairs of the British empire began to fall into confusion, and gradually sliding from the summit of glorious prosperity to which they had been advanced by the virtues and abilities of one man, are at length distracted by the convulsions, that now shake it to its deepest foundations.—The new Ministry finding the brave foes of Britain, though frequently defeated, yet still contending, took up the unfortunate idea of granting them a hasty peace, and of then subduing her faithful friends.

These devoted colonies were judged to be in such a state, as to prevent victories without bloodshed, and all the easy emoluments of statuteable depredation.—The uninterrupted tenor of their peaceable and respectful behaviour from the beginning of colonization, their dutiful, zealous and useful services during the war, though so recently and amply acknowledged in the most honourable manner by his Majesty, by the late King, and by Parliament, could not save them from the meditated innovations.—Parliament was influenced to adopt the pernicious project, and assuming a new power over them, have in the course of eleven years given such decisive specimens of the spirit and consequences attending this power, as to leave no doubt concerning the effects of acquiescence under it. They have undertaken to give and grant our money without our consent, though we have ever exercised an exclusive right to dispose of our own property; statutes have been passed for extending the jurisdiction of courts of Admiralty and Vice Admiralty beyond their ancient limits, for depriving us of the accustomed and inestimable privilege of trial by jury in cases affecting both life and property; for suspending the legislature of one of the colonies; for interdicting all commerce of another; and for altering fundamentally the form of government established by charter, and secured by acts of its own legislature solemnly confirmed by the crown; for exempting the “murderers” of colonists from legal trial, and, in effect, from punishment; for erecting in a neighbouring province, acquired by the joint arms of Great-Britain and America, a despotism dangerous to our very existence; and for quartering soldiers upon the colonists in time of profound peace. It has also been resolved in Parliament, that colonists, charged with committing certain offences, shall be transported to England to be tried.

But why should we enumerate our injuries in detail? By one statute it is declared, that Parliament can “of right make laws to bind us in ALL CASES WHATSOEVER.” What is to defend us against so enormous, so unlimited a power? Not a single man of those who assume it is chosen by us; or is subject to our controul or influence: But on the contrary, they are all of them exempt from the operation of such laws; and an American revenue, if not diverted from the ostensible purposes for which it is raised, would actually lighten their own burdens in proportion as they increase ours. We saw the misery to which such despotism would reduce us. We for ten years incessantly and ineffectually besieged the throne as supplicants; we reasoned, we remonstrated with Parliament in the most mild and decent language. But Administration, sensible that we should regard these oppressive measures as freemen ought to do, sent over fleets and armies to enforce them. The indignation of the Americans was roused if it is true; but it was the indignation of a virtuous, loyal, and affectionate people. A Congress of

Delegates from the united colonies was assembled at Philadelphia, on the fifth day of last September. We resolved again to offer an humble and dutiful petition to the King, and also addressed our fellow-subjects of Great-Britain. We have pursued every temperate, every respectful measure, we have even proceeded to break off our commercial intercourse with our fellow-subjects, as the last peaceable admonition, that our attachment to no nation upon earth should supplant our attachment to liberty.—This, we flattered ourselves, was the ultimate step of the controversy: But subsequent events have shewn, how vain was this hope of finding moderation in our enemies.

Several threatening expressions against the colonies were inserted in his Majesty's speech; our petition, though we were told it was a decent one, that his Majesty had been pleased to receive it graciously, and to promise laying it before his Parliament, was huddled into both Houses amongst a bundle of American papers, and there neglected. The Lords and Commons in their address, in the month of February, said, that “a rebellion at that time actually existed within the province of Massachusetts-Bay, and that those concerned in it had been countenanced and encouraged by unlawful combinations and engagements, entered into by his Majesty's subjects in several of the other colonies; and therefore they besought his Majesty, that he would take the most effectual measures to enforce due obedience to the laws and authority of the supreme legislature.”—Soon after the commercial intercourse of whole colonies, with foreign countries and with each other, was cut off by an act of Parliament; by another, several of them were intirely prohibited from the fisheries in the seas near their coasts, on which they always depended for their sustenance; and large reinforcements of ships and troops were immediately sent over to General Gage.

Fruitless were all the intreaties, arguments and eloquence of an illustrious band of the most distinguished Peers and Commoners, who nobly and strenuously asserted the justice of our cause, to stay or even to mitigate the heedless fury with which these accumulated and unexampled outrages were hurried on.—Equally fruitless was the interference of the city of London, of Bristol, and many other respectable towns in our favour. Parliament adopted an insidious manœuvre calculated to divide us, to establish a perpetual auction of taxations where colony should bid against colony, all of them uninformed what ransom would redeem their lives; and thus to extort from us at the point of the bayonet, the unknown sums that should be sufficient to gratify, if possible to gratify, ministerial rapacity, with the miserable indulgence left to us of raising in our own mode the prescribed tribute. What terms more rigid and humiliating could have been dictated by remorseless victors to conquered enemies? In our circumstances to accept them would be to deserve them.

Soon after the intelligence of these proceedings arrived on this continent, General Gage, who, in the course of the last year, had taken possession of the town of Boston, in the province of Massachusetts-Bay, and still occupied it as a garrison, on the 19th day of April, sent out from that place a large detachment of his army, who made an unprovoked assault on the inhabitants of the said province, at the town of Lexington, as appears by the affidavits of a great number of persons, some of whom were officers and soldiers of that detachment, murdered eight of the inhabitants, and wounded many others. From thence the troops proceeded in warlike array to the town of Concord, where they set upon another party of the inhabitants of the same province, killing several and wounding more, until compelled to retreat by the country people suddenly assembled to repel this cruel aggression. Hostilities thus commenced by the British troops, have been since prosecuted by them without regard to faith or reputation.—The inhabitants of Boston being confined within that town by the General, their Governor, and having in order to procure their dismissal entered into a treaty with him, it was stipulated that the said inhabitants having deposited their arms with their own Magistrates, should have liberty to depart, taking with them their other effects. They accordingly delivered up their arms, but in open violation of honour, in defiance of the obligation of treaties, which even savage nations esteem sacred, the Governor ordered the arms deposited as aforesaid, that they might be preserved for their owners, to be seized by a body of soldiers; detained the greatest part of the inhabitants in the town, and compelled the few, who were permitted to retire, to leave their most valuable effects behind.

By this perfidy, wives are separated from their husbands, children from their parents, the aged and the sick from their relations and friends, who wish to attend and comfort them; and those who have been used to live in plenty, and even elegance, are reduced to deplorable distress.

The General further emulating his ministerial masters, by a proclamation, bearing date on the 12th day of June, after venting the grossest falsehoods and calumnies against the good people of these colonies, proceeds to “declare” them all either by name or description to be rebels and “traitors, to supersede the course of the common law, and instead thereof to publish and order the use and exercise of the law martial.”—His troops have butchered our countrymen; have wastefully burnt Charlestown, besides a considerable number of houses in other places; our ships and vessels are seized; the necessary supplies of provisions are intercepted, and he is exerting his utmost power to spread destruction and devastation around him.

We have received certain intelligence, that General Carleton, the Governor of Canada, is instigating the people of that province and the Indians to fall upon us; and we have but too much reason to apprehend, that schemes have been formed to excite domestic enemies against us. In brief, a part of these Colonies now feels, and all of them are sure of feeling, as far as the vengeance of administration can inflict them, the complicated calamities of fire, sword and famine.—We are reduced to the alternative of choosing an unconditional submission to the tyranny of irritated ministers, or resistance by force.—The latter is our choice.—We have counted the cost of this contest, and find nothing so dreadful as voluntary slavery.—Honour, justice and humanity, forbid us tamely to surrender that freedom which we received from our gallant ancestors, and which our innocent posterity

have a right to receive from us. We cannot endure the infamy and guilt of resigning succeeding generations to that wretchedness which inevitably awaits them, if we basely entail hereditary bondage upon them.

Our cause is just. Our union is perfect. Our internal resources are great, and, if necessary, foreign assistance is undoubtedly attainable.—We gratefully acknowledge, as signal instances of the Divine favour towards us, that his Providence would not permit us to be called into this severe controversy, until we were grown up to our present strength, had been previously exercised in warlike operations, and possessed of the means of defending ourselves.—With hearts fortified with these animating reflections, we most solemnly, before God and the world, declare, that, exerting the utmost energy of those powers, which our beneficent Creator hath graciously bestowed upon us, the arms we have been compelled by our enemies to assume, we will, in defiance of every hazard, with unabating firmness and perseverance, employ for the preservation of our liberties, being with one mind resolved to die Freemen, rather than to live Slaves.

Left this declaration should disquiet the minds of our friends and fellow-subjects in any part of the empire, we assure them, that we mean not to dissolve that union which has so long and so happily subsisted between us, and which we sincerely wish to see restored.—Necessity has not yet driven us into that desperate measure, or induced us to excite any other nation to war against them. We have not raised armies with ambitious designs of separating from Great-Britain, and establishing independent states.—We fight not for glory or for conquest. We exhibit to mankind the remarkable spectacle of a people attacked by unprovoked enemies, without any imputation, or even suspicion of offence. They boast of their privileges and civilization, and yet proffer no milder conditions than servitude or death.—

In our own native land, in defence of the freedom that is our birthright, and which we ever enjoyed till the late violation of it—for the protection of our property, acquired solely by the honest industry of our forefathers and ourselves, against violence actually offered, we have taken up arms. We shall lay them down when hostilities shall cease on the part of the aggressors, and all danger of their being renewed shall be removed, and not before.

With an humble confidence in the mercies of the supreme and impartial Judge and Ruler of the universe, we most devoutly implore his divine goodness to conduct us happily through this great conflict, to dispose our adversaries to reconciliation on reasonable terms; and thereby to relieve the empire from the calamities of civil war.

By order of CONGRESS,

JOHN HANCOCK, President.

Attested, CHARLES THOMSON, Secretary.

Philadelphia, July 6, 1775.

IN CONGRESS, July 4.

RESOLVED, That the two acts passed in the first session of the present Parliament, the one intitled, “an act to restrain the trade and commerce of the province of Massachusetts-Bay and New-Hampshire, and colonies of Connecticut and Rhode-Island, and Providence Plantations, in North-America, to Great-Britain, Ireland, and the British islands in the West-Indies; and to prohibit such provinces and colonies from carrying on any fishery on the banks of Newfoundland, or other places therein mentioned, under certain conditions and limitations;” the other intitled, “an act to restrain the trade and commerce of the colonies of New-Jersey, Pennsylvania, Maryland, Virginia, and South-Carolina, to Great-Britain, Ireland, and the British islands in the West-Indies, under certain conditions and limitations,” are unconstitutional, oppressive and cruel, and that the commercial opposition of these colonies, to certain acts enumerated in the association of the last Congress, ought to be made against these until they are repealed.

A true Copy from the Minutes,

CHARLES THOMSON, Secretary.

PROVIDENCE, June 24.

Extract of a letter from the Committee of Correspondence at Plymouth, to the Committee of this town, dated the 22d instant.

“We have a letter come to town from Saco, giving an account of two vessels, with provisions from Gage, under the protection of a tender, having arrived at that place, in order to exchange said provision for lumber; the Committee of that town considered of the propriety of suffering them to trade, and from necessity were obliged to admit them; after this they discovered great partiality in regard to the persons with whom they contracted, which at once however they failed in; she hove up her anchor, proceeded down the river, some distance from the town, where she again anchored; but was soon for warmly attacked from the shore, as to be obliged to slip her cables and push down: In her way she boarded a small coasting sloop, Capt. Tobey, from Sanwich, and obliged him to undertake the pilotage of the vessel out of the river; but before getting out they boarded a schooner, Capt. Avery, from Norwich, and took him also on board; in the mean time the people of Saco fitted out two armed vessels, which pursued the enemy, and soon after getting clear of the land they discovered and made for each other; the tender did not suppose them to be armed till they approached each other, when the master threatened to discharge a brace of balls through Capt. Tobey, unless he would swear to take up his gun in defence of the vessel; who replied, that as he engaged only as a pilot, he should refuse; the master then excused him, and threatened Avery in like manner, and he was obliged to comply. The first volley from our armed vessels killed poor Avery, and the infernal Captain, which put the people in such consternation, that they descended into the hold, cabin, &c. and were boarded and carried into Saco; the number of men taken on board the tender is not mentioned; she had 4 three pounders, 12 swivels, 40 or 50 muskets, as many cutlasses, and a number of pistols.”

TO BE SOLD,

A STRONG healthy NEGROE MAN, 27 Years of Age, this Country born, who has been bred to Farming, and understands it well in all its Branches. Enquire of JOHN SWIFT, of Bensalem Township, in Bucks County.